

2-10-1862

## Letter to Jennie Guiney, 1862 February 10

Patrick Guiney

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Camp 9th Mass.  
Miner's Hill Va.  
Feb. 10/62

My Dear Fannie:

I must confess  
that I have been negligent.  
I have yours of the 31<sup>st</sup>  
Jan. and 2<sup>d</sup> Inst. and yet,  
up to present, no answer  
from me. Well dear indulge  
my misfortune for such it  
seems. I have not written for  
some ten days and yet I  
can offer no reason for my  
neglect during such a period.  
God knows me, and I wish  
you could judge me as He  
does - by the Heart. I am  
in such a rush of ideas of  
my future - in such dreams  
of "Days to come" - in the way of



Such a multitude of little and im-  
-portant duties of a military cha-  
-racter, that I even pass over the  
hope of my soul - which is the  
welfare of yourself and little  
per - to attend to them, to think,  
to act - to the end that my life  
may not be inglorious, but good,  
uncommon, perhaps noble! It  
is in such mental fancies that  
I forget to write to you and  
everybody else. My darling  
when we were married - nay,  
since I was born, it was thus  
my mind was bent. This charac-  
-teristic is your husband as  
well as I am - blame but do  
not condemn. But Jennie do  
not follow my example in this  
neglect - you are a woman and  
a loved wife, whatever I may  
seem.

There we are yet, sunk deep  
in the mud of Mexico's hills.

O! God, deliver us! I want  
this war finished in June next,  
sure, if not sooner. I wish  
General McCallan's wife  
or some other influential person  
would tell or coax the General  
to Advance the Army.

As to that Watch case  
I want it. Send on the found-  
to show you how "immense"  
I am, as Mr. Houston says, I send  
on a likeness taken in Camp in  
full Military Costume. I feel  
sure of being St. Cal. I will not  
want clothes till Spring. I will see  
about Bullet Proof Vest. I received  
a letter from your Brother John.  
Believe me Dear  
Ever yours

P.S. Enclosed  
I send \$20.  
and am - P.R.S.